[Mr. K. Kunju Panicker.]

ഇതുയും സംഗതികളം പ്രത്യേകം ഗവണ്മെൻറശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടു വരണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ മോഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു്.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Sir, some honourable members have brought to the notice of the House two important points regarding the provision of facilities and conveniences for prisoners so that the prisoners may be engaged in useful occupations in the Central Prison so that they may prove themselves useful citizens when they come out of the Jail. Sir, as a matter of fact, the scope of the Jail manufactory has recently been developed considerably and the honourable members of the House would be glad to know the catalogue of works that are being attended to by the prisoners. I may say that out of about 780 convicts, 551 are employed in useful occupations. About 100 prisoners are doing services such as hospital-cooking, sweeping, cleaning, scavenging, masonry work, road repairing work, etc. About 141 convicts are doing work in the Prison Press. I may mention in this connection that goods to the value of Rs. 41,210 were manufactured which was the largest amount in any one year and therefore a record figure. Out of an expenditure of Rs. 26,896 an income of Rs. 41,210 was made during 1117. It is interesting to note that profits for the year 1117 rose from Rs. 26,032 to Rs. 41,835. Out of the various industries now being carried on in the Jail, the profit that could be expected for 1119 would be much higher, as sufficient allotment has been made in the current year's Budget to develop the various industries in that institution.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: My honourable friend has not said anything about the facilities given in the way of books and papers for reading.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: I may add that there are Moral Instructors and other teachers in the Prison belonging to different denominations. Recently, two teachers have been engaged for the education of youthful offenders and every morning and evening, classes are held for one hour. General lectures on religious and moral subjects are also given for the benefit of convicts. Books are also being supplied.

The question that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,97,693 under Demand XV—Jails, was put and carried.

The motion was passed, and the grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—POLICE.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHURAWARDY: Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 11,84,581 under Demand XVI—Police.

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Motion 198B.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I move,

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,000 for travelling allowance by Re. 1."

My main object is to stress the necessity of the Inspector-General travelling at more frequent intervals to some of the stations in order that the subordinates may be more properly guided in their dealings with the public. The Inspector-General should camp at least for one day at each of the stations he visits, once a year, to get himself into touch with the more respectable sections of the residents so that there would be a possibility of greater confidence being infused in the minds of the public at large. I say so because, the Inspector-General is of course a very busy officer of the State. He may be making surprise inspections, and travelling very often from place to place, more often than perhaps known to people. But there may be many places where the Inspector-General might not have gone even once, because, I know for certain that he has not the time to camp at such places and thus put himself into touch with that section of the people I mentioned. We know that the Police Inspectors of such places have to be given sufficient power and authority; otherwise the unruly sections of the people will go on with their job, and become a nuisance to the general population. But, that does not mean that the Inspectors should be allowed to have power even over the head of the Inspector-General. Hence, my point is that the Inspector-General should decidedly camp at least for 24 hours in each of such places for meeting the people. It is not enough if he orders the Inspectors of these places to fetch all people who have lodged complaints. Nobody would come, for, the moment the Inspector-General leaves the place, the local Inspector becomes the highest officer in the locality. Nobody would dare come forward at the bidding of the Inspector. I hope I have made my point clear.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, I am very grateful to the honourable member for the valuable suggestion he has given me. I am visiting and inspecting stations wherever necessary to the best of my knowledge and ability and camp there when the need arises. I do not place any hard and fast rule in the matter of stopping at every station for 24 hours and more and even if I think of doing so, perhaps one year may not be sufficient for the purpose, though I would certainly be happy to do so. Anyhow, Sir, I thank the member for this suggestion.

PRESIDENT. The House will now rise for lunch and meet again at 3 P. M.

The House rose for lunch at 2 P. M. and re-assembled at 3 P. M. with the President in the Chair.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: ാാൽ ഇ.....

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PRESIDENT: If the honourable member wants a full answer, he might perhaps try to speak in English.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: Before dealing with the cut motion directly, I may express my appreciation of the efficiency of the present Inspector-General of Police. But, with reference to the recruitment to the Police Force, I beg to point out that particular attention should be directed so that the backward classes, who were not sufficiently represented until recently not only in the Police Department but in other departments, may get their due share.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: THE FIXING OF TIME FOR LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

PRESIDENT: There is just one matter which although I wanted to mention before, was forgotten. Honourable members may remember that a few days ago I made an announcement that on account of the events that had happened on that particular day the legislative business might be taken up on Thursday next, the House starting its business from 10 a. m. and going on till we had finished the business. I now find that we have made considerable progress: in fact, more rapid progress than one would have anticipated, with regard to the Budget Demands. If it were possible—I do not want to curtail discussion—for this House to finish the Demands for Grants by the afternoon of Wednesday, we might, without sitting late hours on Thursday, utilize the rest of the day for legislative business. I think that will be of greater convenience to the honourable members. But, if honourable members would prefer the other alternative, I have no objection. I am willing to abide by the decision of the House. Would the suggestion put forward by me just now meet with the general wish of the House?

(The proposal was agreed to by the House.)

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: The time limit with regard to the sending up of amendments may be relaxed.

PRESIDENT: Of course. In all statutes, amendments give the greatest possible trouble. The merits are accepted by the House, and later on the statute gives the unoffending parties trouble in Courts of Law.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: I am very thankful to note that the present Head of the Department is very sympathetic towards unrepresented communities. But I beg to point out that he should be still more sympathetic in the matter of recruitment from among the unrepresented section of His Highness's subjects.

With regard to the special police, I beg to submit that there was a time when there was political turmoil in the land. Then there was necessity for a special police force. But now we see that complete

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peace reigns in the land. The Government are so confident that all the detenues and political prisioners are set free. But still, a considerable force of special police is retained. I beg to point out that the efficient section from among them may be absorbed into the regular force.

PRESIDENT: Government have resolved that the special police as such may be definitely absorbed into the ordinary ranks of the Police and instructions have been given to that end. At present, we are not able to disband that force on account of the prevalent calm in the country for the reason—without disclosing any confidential information—that it is specially necessary at this juncture to keep some control and watch over our coast. The coast line of India may be a vulnerable point if there is a desperate enemy and therefore it has not been possible for the Government wholly to disband that force. They are being utilised for that purpose. But the idea is that the special police as such need not be continued beyond the time absolutely necessary.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: I am very thankful. I have only a word more to say. If they are retained, I beg to point out that they should be given a higher rate of remuneration or else they will resort to unwholesome methods. Their salary is very low. I have sent in a cut motion to the effect that the salary of Police Constables may be raised to a minimum of Rs. 15 which is accepted in the neighbouring State as the minimum pay of a police constable. Due to want of proper remuneration, most of them are compelled to resort to irregular methods and that is causing much inconvenience to the public at large. In some cases which were brought to my notice people had to experience trouble at the hands of the police constables who were deputed to investigate cases with regard to the stealing of some tapioca. I directed the complainants to the D. S. P. Yet there was no remedy. The allegation is that the police went to the spot and collected the remaining tapioca without making any investigation in a theft case of tapioca. I do not wish to particularise the case with reference to which I am now speaking. I beg to submit that the Police Constables are resorting to such desperate methods since they do not get proper remuneration. They also live with their families. The minimum necessity of a man should be met by his pay. It is not now possible with the pay of eight or nine rupees. So, by raising their salary they can be made more efficient and honest in the discharge of their duties. With these words, I move the motion for the acceptance of the House.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapalli* cum *Kartikapalli*): I also support the motion. In doing so, I do not propose to put forward any communal claim nor do I plead for any communal consideration. In general, for the past one or two years, there was some kind of complaint about the recruitment and

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[Mr. Kannanthodathu Janardanan Nair.]

that is that the literate and the educated class is put down with an apathy. Travancore is a country with a very high percentage of literacy, with very many people who have passed examinations and who are prepared to come forward and join the military and Police forces as can be seen from experience. But unfortunately, as far as I know, most of the people recruited have been taken not from among the ranks of men who have passed any examination at all. There is a general feeling that in exhausting the recruitment, the authorities employed for the recruitment have practically exhausted all men from the lowest strata of society. Take, for example, the case of the umbrella-menders, gas-light menders, etc. The criterion fixed for the selection of the force is not educational qualification and fitness but such things as running, jumping, climbing trees, walls, etc., and things of the like, and the Inspector-General has announced in this House that those were the main tests on which the candidates were selected. Taking into consideration the work of the police we can see easily how that has, to a great extent, affected the efficiency of the department. The man who is recruited to the police force is given some training in Law and other things which have to be put into practice in the discharge of his duties. Now after living in a police station for more than eleven months, I can more or less know the nature of their duties and how they discharge them. In most of the police stations outside the town limits, the ordinary policeman who comes in turn in his sentry duty is generally in charge of the station General Diary for hours.

A man who is in charge of the General Diary has all the powers of the station-house officer according to law. I cannot understand how a man who is illiterate, with literacy only sufficient to call him literate, can hold the General Diary like that and exercise powers conferred on him by law. Suppose, for instance, he is to take up a case. In a small station, one like Arukutty or Aramboly you can see only a sentry or a turn duty man almost always. It is that man who has to prepare an F.I.R. and register a case and prepare the necessary mahazars. That is one case. A Policeman when he is on duty should be able to recognise which is a cognizable offence and which is not. A Policeman has often to make depositions in Court when he is cited as a witness there. We can more or less guess how an illiterate Policeman can make his deposition satisfactorily in a case for which he is cited as a witness. Further he has to write notes every day, keep watch over people like me and report about it. It is on those reports further proceedings lie, further proceedings are based. It is again the same Policeman who is again deputed for checking motor vehicles in checking stations. This is one side of the work of the Policeman. Considering this work on one side and the test of climbing

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of trees, jumping, running, etc., put up for recruitment on the other, we can now more or less imagine how a Policeman of that sort recruited and trained in that manner can discharge his legal duties creditably, unquestionably.

Another complaint which has been made to me very often since 1114 is, regarding the absorption of the special police in the regular force. Many criminals and K. Ds. have got into the Police force.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Not one, Sir.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Very well, now that you want examples I will mention one or two. There is one named Aliar of Vallakadavu. He stole a bicycle and ran away with it to British India. He was arrested on an extradition warrant and brought over here. The case against him was then turned to one of cheating from that of theft by somebody's intervention. Now he is a Lance-Naik in the Trivandrum Armed Reserve Police Force. I know such other examples and if the Inspector-General of Police can give me time of say one month, I will get him several examples of the like. Then again with regard to K. D's. I know one Mr. Karunakaran, a K. D. of Quilon who was first entertained as a special Policeman and was absorbed into the regular Police thereafter.

With this aspect in view I cannot understand how the I. G. can set his own standards for recruitment when it is clearly laid down in the Police Manual that the least qualification for recruitment to the Police Force should be the seventh class. How could the Inspector-General of Police overrule the provisions laid down in the Police Manual and adopt the qualifications such as jumping, running, etc., as he thought fit? With the creation of a Police Force like this I doubt whether he would be able to justify the motto "Strong in action and modest in behaviour". So either the motto should be removed or the criterion for recruitment should be made to fit in with the motto. With these words I support the motion.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: I am very grateful to the honourable member Mr. Kunju Panicker for the compliment. I am very liberal in the matter of recruiting men from the backward communities. If conditions are all alike, I give preference to those who are thoroughly fit and if they possess sufficient qualifications I will certainly consider those applications.

As regards the special police, the position is this. On 1-5-1114 Government ordered the recruitment of 2,000 men to the special police. I enlisted actually 1,394 men, leaving over 600 vacancies. In the next year I brought down the number to 1,340 and in 1116 to 800 and this year it is only 194. I am satisfied with the 194 men. As the

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[Rajyasevapravina Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy.]

Dewan-President has suggested we are utilising them for a very useful purpose. We are utilising their services on the West Coast. Well, taking the figures in Tinnevelly and Malabar, we have a considerably lesser number of policemen. We are only managing with special policemen. We are having great economy in that direction, and the policy has always been to take men in the special police and absorb them in the regular police force. Most of the special policemen have been taken in the regular police force as they have come to the standard we have kept up. The special policemen are enlisted on a small pay. They are employed as such only for a short time. However, they do well, and in fairness we shall have to promote them. They are enlisted as constables, then they become head-constables and thus go up.

With regard to their pay, here the pay of the last class constable is Rs. 11 per mensem. Government raised the basic pay by Re. 1 more. So a constable is getting a pay of Rs. 12 now.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know from the honourable member whether they are getting dearness allowance?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes. They are getting dearness allowance too.

A constable in the neighbouring State gets a pay of Rs. 15. But what is the number of constables there?

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know from the honourable member the total population of the neighbouring State?

PRESIDENT: The total population of the neighbouring State is 1,400,000.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: That is the position. My recommendations are before the Government and I am certain that the Government will take them up for consideration.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: With regard to the absorption of special police, may I know the normal number of policemen in the reserve?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SURAWARDY: The reserve has been increased by another thousand. Now, with regard to Mr. Janardanan Nair's grievances. It is said that the educated class is not being encouraged in the matter of recruitment. It is not so. The qualifications laid down for recruitment to the reserve is said to be running, jumping, etc. There they are. They must be there, because it is a recruitment for reserve. All over British India and all over the world it is the case. I am not going to increase the exigencies with regard to physical test.

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When I hold selection for the constabulary, for reserve, my eye is on the side of educated candidates. With regard to the regular police, when I find more men in the reserve they are promoted to the regular police on a test. I have not sent out any man who is suited for either to the reserve or the other force. They are not sent out. I can assure that to the honourable member.

Now coming to the K. Ds. and cycle thiefs being entertained in the Department, I may say that when a policeman is entertained he is tested in education and he is taken on. Then a verification roll is prepared. We send on the verification roll to the Station House Officer, in whose jurisdiction he lives. That Officer reports to us whether the man is suspected or if he has got any black mark. The moment that comes to our notice, the man is shot. The honourable member gave two names, one Aliar of Vallakadavu and the other Karunakaran of some other place. These two will be enquired into. The honourable member can come up to me at any time and I shall be glad to enquire into whatever he reports.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: What is the minimum pay of a Police Constable together with dearness allowance?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Now it is Rs. 13.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know whether the honourable member has any objection to recommend to Government to raise the pay to Rs. 15?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: That is not in my hands.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member will also bear in mind the grant under the head "Education". The honourable member will bear in mind the pay of the Elementary School teachers, and compare it with that of the Police constables. How many elementary school teachers are getting less than Rs. 15?

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: My view is that the police constables will commit mistakes if they grumble.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN (*Chirayinkil cum Nedumangad*): In the matter of recruiting coastal guards, will the honourable member give special preference to fisherfolk?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes, Sir. We are giving special preference to the fisher-folk in that matter.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 202.

SRY. T. NARAYANI AMMA: Sir, I move, the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,07,698 for Superintendence by Rs. 5."

My object in moving this motion is to criticise the arrangements for the housing of the temporary women police. The temporary

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[Sry. T. Narayani Amma.]

women police are housed in the special barracks at Thycaud. Sir, the accommodation given to them is far from satisfactory. The barrack set apart for them is a row of rooms which are just opposite to the row of rooms set apart for men.

PRESIDENT: Are there not four rooms?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes, Sir.

PRESIDENT: I have visited the locality recently in order to see how they are housed. There are four rooms set apart for them and they are given separate accommodation.

SRY. T. NARAYANI AMMA: Sir, these rooms are facing the rooms of men and there is only a pathway between them.

PRESIDENT: I may inform the honourable member that very great care is taken in the matter of housing accommodation to the women police. If any scandal arises with regard to the women police the future of the women police will be questioned. Therefore I am very anxious to see that there is no complaint or accusation. In spite of all these there have been mis-chances, as honourable members all know. There have been one or two peccadilloes which we could not avoid.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI (*Meenachil cum Thodupuzha*): May I know whether it is not possible to give them separate housing accommodation?

PRESIDENT: How many are there?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: There are 20 of them, Sir.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

Motion No. 203.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I move the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,62,188 for District Police by Re. 1."

My object in moving this motion is to speak about the present method of Departmental promotions to the posts of Inspectors of Police. I wish to bring to the notice of Government the condition of the clerks in the Departments. What I understand now is that promotions as Inspectors are given only to Head Constables in the department generally and clerks are not recruited as Inspectors of Police. Generally the Head constables are not graduates and there are many graduates in the Department who have put in 15 or 20 years of service still in the scale of Rs. 25-40. The head constables who were recruited at the same time are promoted as Inspectors of Police and get higher pay. In the Excise Department the clerks are given preference and they are appointed as Inspectors. Once upon a time that was also done in the Police Department. Since we are shortly to have the police

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training school, the clerks who are physically fit may also be trained there and absorbed as Inspectors. Hoping that the departmental head and Government will consider this matter favourably, I move the motion.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, I am thankful to the honourable member for the very reasonable way in which he has brought this motion before the House. The main difficulty is this. A clerk does a work which does not make him fit to be an Inspector, whereas the Head constable does a work which makes him entitled to be an Inspector. The Inspector's duties are necessarily executive. The clerk attends only to ministerial and clerical work in the office, The Head constable in a Station has to attend to various executive duties such as investigation of cases, investigation of petitions and enquiries and conducting of confidential enquiries and all that. The clerk is not fit for that.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Was it not the practice before to recruit clerks as Inspectors?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, we are putting the cart before the horse. The P. T. S. should have been brought in first and then the clerks who are physically fit could be taken for training there and recruited as Inspectors. The clerk who goes into the school goes through intensive training in law, in physical test, in riding and everything that is necessary for an Inspector. I believe that the policeman is made and not born. Let the school come into being first. Government have ordered that the school should be started from the 1st of next year. It is open to clerks to compete for selection for the post of Inspectors. As a matter of fact, the last selection was open to them, and clerks from certain offices appeared for selection. They were seen by the Service Commissioner and also by the Dewan. So when the P. T. S. comes into existence the clerks can also take their training there.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Will the clerk be given police training?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know whether the Head constable should also take training in the School?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: In the case of the Head constable, it may not be necessary. By long experience in the station, he has got sufficient training in police work. It is only the raw man who should go there for training.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Is there any absolute prohibition for appointing clerks as executive officers?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Not at all. If he is not a square man in a round hole, the clerk will surely be appointed.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Is the honourable member aware that clerks in the Secretariat are made executive officers?

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RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: I do not know that. But I may say, Sir, that some of the clerks in the police department have been appointed as police Inspectors.

The motion, by leave was withdrawn.

Motion No. 206.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, I had no idea of moving the motion, at first as the permanent incumbent who is responsible for the administration of this Department was away till yesterday. Now he has come post-haste and his presence emboldens me to move my cut motion to make some observations. Hence the motion:

"To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 11,84,531 under Demand XVI by Rs. 10."

The object of my motion is to point out the necessity to increase the number of the constables and to suggest that the minimum standard for recruitment to the constabulary should be the certificate of the Vernacular School Leaving Examination and to point out that the graduates in the Department in any grade shall be given preference to be recruited as Inspectors and to point out the necessity of overhauling the C. I. D. section. Many honourable members have spoken about the Department on previous motions and the Inspector General of Police has replied. Yet I am not satisfied with the answers given by the Inspector-General of Police. Sir, our population has increased to 61 and odd lakhs. It was about 51 lakhs ten years ago. Petty offences such as theft of clothes, and electric appliances in houses are on the increase. The police has to administer peace and order to a larger number than those 10 years ago. Hence I suggest that the number of constables should be increased in proportion to the increase of the population.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: May I interrupt the honourable member and say that they are on the decrease? I shall give the figures very soon.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: The figures are your own make and they show the numbers detected. But the truth is otherwise. Our Gazette gives the number of deaths due to cholera in the State for a week. But the number of actual deaths due to cholera in the week will be really much more. The figures that the Inspector-General of Police may give and the actual number of thefts, will have no comparison as in the case above said. The actual death will be more than the number of deaths reported; similarly the actual theft will be more than the number reported.

Sir, the theft of electric appliances, nails on the outer doors and windows is on the increase. The police are not helping the public in checking or stopping of these crimes by a vigilant patrol to detect. Sir, I can see the difficulty of the Inspector-General of Police if he says that he has no sufficient force. Let me request the Government for an increase in the number of constabulary. The constabulary, Sir, must be recruited from educated men in the State. The qualification fixed for the constables is V. S. L. C. The Inspector-General goes out of the rule. The honourable Inspector-General of Police was telling us that if he found a man as an expert in jumping over walls or

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running or in withstanding a kick at the weak hand of his, he has taken him as a constable though he is not a V. S. L. C. We can see such experts amongst the holders of Vernacular School Leaving Certificates. Sir, I can assure the honourable member that we are not in dearth of hands who have passed the V. S. L. C. with the additional qualifications which the Inspector-General is very much fond of. About 50% of them are now in hotels and in houses of private gentlemen as cooks because they do not find any other job with their qualifications. I do not mean any insult to them. Therefore it must be strictly enforced that V. S. L. C. must be the minimum qualification for recruitment to the constabulary.

Secondly, Sir, I would suggest that the pay of the constables should be increased. The lowest pay shall be Rs. 15 per mensem, so that they may not have the temptation to stoop to underhand dealings, to extract money from the poor people. My honourable friend, Mr. Kunju Panicker, was stressing the need to fix Rs. 15 as thelowest pay. At present I will agree with him that the pay of the ordinary constable should be raised at least to Rs 15 under normal conditions. Under extraordinary conditions as of today, war allowance also has to be given. I hope Government will find their way for increasing the pay of the constables to Rs. 15 a month. I would urge even more and say that the lowest pay in the State and the lowest grant made by Government in the State should be at least Rs. 15.

The next point I want to urge is that the graduates entertained in this department as constables. Head constables and clerks should be promoted as Inspectors before any first recruitment. They ought to be given preference because they have some experience in the department. They would be better qualified for the posts than raw recruits. This policy does not seem to be adhered to very often. I am told that only 25% of appointments as Inspectors is allotted to the graduates in the department and 75% to outsiders. I should urge that it should be the reverse, 75% for the graduates in the department and 25% for graduates outside the department. In any way an experienced graduate in the department would be a better person, more qualified for the post than an ordinary inexperienced graduate from outside.

In this connection I bring to the notice of the Dewan that there is a complaint against the public that having invited applications for recruitment of Inspectors and having got out of the experiment about Rs. 2,000 by way of application fees for the recruitment, Government are keeping strict silence over the whole matter. There was a first selection after the interview by the Inspector-General of Police and the Public Service Commissioner. The Dewan-President had interviews with those selected and with a fresh batch of candidates. The public and all the candidates thought that there would be a recruitment soon. But having received application fees of over Rs. 2,000 the Government is remaining quiet, the Inspector-General of Police is remaining quiet, and the Public Service Commissioner is remaining quiet. I do not know the reason why the Government have not announced their intention in one way or the other. I would request the Government

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either to refund the money to the poor applicants or make a selection on any basis so as to avoid the misunderstandings.

My next point is in regard to the C. I. D. system. Our C. I. Ds. are found anywhere. Sir, there is a talk that there are ever so many sets of C. I. Ds. in this country. Excuse me, Sir, if I say that there is an understanding current among the public that there is the Dewan's C. I. D.

PRESIDENT: What does the honourable member say?

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: There is a rumour current among the public that there is a set of C. I. Ds. known as the Dewan's C. I. Ds., another set known as the Inspector-General's C. I. Ds. and a third, the departmental C. I. Ds. who are known as mere C. I. Ds. No one among them is a C. I. D. in the strict sense. They do not know how to detect a case. They are not detectives. With due respect to the Inspector-General, who has just returned tired, after a long journey.....

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: But he is not tired.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Simply from the appearance I gather that he might be.

PRESIDENT: Physiognomical signs are misleading sometimes.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Appearances are deceptive Sir. There is no secrecy about the movements of our C. I. Ds. Usually reports appear saying that so and so, C. I. D. has started to Alleppey to enquire into certain matters etc. I should say, Sir, that this system is not a good system for detection of crimes. Whenever we go through some of the novels, reading the works done by the C. I. D. Inspectors, our blood boils to see how correctly, how accurately and how quickly they find out the culprits and pass on the information to the ordinary Police to enable them to arrest the culprits. In our State, though it has not developed to such an extent, we can also make some improvements to the C. I. D. work. I would, therefore, invite the attention of the Inspector-General of Police and the Dewan to make a thorough overhauling of the system, and to recruit undergraduates and graduates of stattus to this force, and to keep their movements as secret as possible, with a separate register of their names kept either in the private chambers of the Inspector-General or the Dewan. It will be a great help in the working of the Department and to the State also. With these observations, Sir, I commend my motion for the consideration of the House.

PRESIDENT: As my name has been mentioned here, I think the ground may be cleared in so far as I am concerned. The Head of the Department will, no doubt, answer for the Department.

It is not accurate to say that the Dewan has got a group of C. I. D. men employed by him. It is equally not accurate to say that he has no machinery for checking the reports sent up by the Inspector General of Police or by the ordinary C. I. D. men. Functioning for six years as the head of the Criminal Investigation Department in British India, I know that if an important member of Government is

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supposed to be against a particular individual, the C. I. D. man's normal preoccupation is to inculcate the idea into his mind as far as possible. Therefore, in order to prevent any such tendencies having too much operation, unless two accounts from different sources are concurrent, the head of the Administration does not generally act on a C. I. D. report. Even supposing there are ten C. I. D. reports from ten different sources, the head of the Administration may still come to the conclusion that the C. I. D. reports are false. There are certain instances where steps have been taken and the matter then explained to the head of the Department. In such cases, the Dewan has his own methods of enquiring, and his own machinery through which the Dewan naturally keeps an eye upon various items of corruption not wholly connected with the Police Department. He has to have a certain amount of latitude in that respect. But there is no C. I. D. Department or anything of that kind. At the same time it must be understood that the Dewan is not wholly dependent upon the Police C. I. D., but has other sources of information also.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I wish to say a few words on this motion. And I have been persuaded to do so partly because of the very frank and very kind statement which the President has made. It is really consoling to us all that the Dewan has chosen to say that a C. I. D. report will not be acted upon.

PRESIDENT: By itself.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: By itself, unless corroborated in essential particular from other sources. But there is considerable force in what Mr. Kurup has stated. That, Sir, was before your statement. But an answer has been given by the Dewan which gives great consolation to us. In this country, as perhaps everywhere else, whenever a man gets the reputation of being disliked by Government, all manners of cock-and-bull stories are trumpeted up against him. But in spite of all the endeavours of these mischievous people who are out to make hay while the sun shines, it is consoling to note that Government will take things as they are.

PRESIDENT: At the same time, the honourable member must realise that, machinery or no machinery, you can never be sure that you have found out the truth regarding these people and all that they report, however thoroughly consistent, is correct. I know it from personal experience. I have had C. I. D. reports made against me elsewhere. I know the whole position and I think all of us have gone through the same experience. If you have to take a dose of salt, you have to.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Some years ago, I had great apprehensions about what the C. I. Ds. might do.

PRESIDENT: They are very useful in carrying luggage sometimes.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: One of my friends who was a member of this House some 22 years ago was about to make a proposal in the old Assembly. I tried to persuade him and said "Well, my dear fellow, do not ask for a C. I. D. Department." But history has made great strides in the State and we have now got that Department. In certain circumstances these C. I. Ds. may be required. But I am glad

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to note that you will not permit the C. I. D. to develop into a system of wrong and dishonest espionage. Espionage is absolutely bad, and harmful at certain places in this country, Sir—.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. At the same time, I have found very great, immediate, effect in certain cases where a C. I. D. man proclaims that he is a C. I. D. man and sits opposite to a man's house, and does nothing except watching the movements of everybody going in and out. A great deal of effect has been found to be produced by this method. As a matter of fact, in certain cases persons have been encouraged to proclaim that they are C. I. D. men. It has produced a great deal of good and legal action has become unnecessary by the very presence of these men sitting opposite to a house. Very often we do ask men to sit opposite to particular houses and not to take any other action but to say that he is a C. I. D. man.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: What people are more afraid of is the mufti C. I. D. man apparently respectable but who merely goes on carrying tales.

PRESIDENT: That is a very well-known thing. There are very important men getting 1,000 and 2,000 rupees for giving the information regarding what happens in clubs, social gatherings, banquets, balls, etc. A great deal of information is gathered from such places through men paid for that purpose. There is no harm in saying that. Such a thing happens all over the world.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: But if I were to say so, it will be stated as out of order and so....

PRESIDENT: The only point is, you must take it in a sense of humour. When people go beyond a limit you make it clear that you won't stand such nonsense, then you are a gentleman well-served. That is all.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I am speaking of officers of some importance who will take the same view of the C. I. D. and take what they say with a grain of salt. Now, Sir, a constable is the unit. He is a very fortunate man; at the same time very unfortunate too. I should like to say 'constable' because the constable has a glory of his own. I remember in the old days when I was reading Blackstone that the constable was a very big man in England and the only safety of the world was that he did not know the extent of his large powers. He is unfortunate here because of this, namely, that he receives a pay, an unlucky number, of 13. He is receiving 13 rupees and only that.

PRESIDENT: Supposing it is Rs. 12.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: But once given cannot be taken. Even a constitution once given cannot be taken.

PRESIDENT: Then he may be given Rs. 14.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: My point is this. I wish to say these things. The efficiency of the police depends on the way in which the work is done and it is a proposition which requires no remonstrance. I find, Sir, on account of the bad system, of certain laws of procedure, a constable, Head Constable and the Inspector have got

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immense chances to do what is absolutely wrong and what will not be permitted. For example, take the case of under-trial prisoners in this country. If the officers of the Police Department exercise their mind upon the question and do things according to law, a good deal of difficulty will be removed. A very respectable man was arrested during the last 10 months or so. I have had occasions to appear on behalf of such men who stand charged in different cases. Men who were dealing in business—rich, respectable men, are under arrest. They have sunk a lot of money in trade. In that category comes a Muslim, a very respectable man. He was arrested, handcuffed and taken through the public streets.

PRESIDENT: That is under definite orders. People who commit offence against food will be hand-cuffed and the utmost possible obloquy is sought to be imposed upon them. Not only for the past, but in future also that will be the policy.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I don't wish to say anything about that. But my point is...

PRESIDENT: In other words, under the present conditions it is considered as a grave offence. Offences in regard to food precautions are considered as offences akin to treason. I am probably not exaggerating that. It is against the well-being of the State and will be treated as the highest possible offence, short of treason to the Sovereign.

SADVSYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: My objection was, individual case has to be considered on its own merits.

PRESIDENT: If he was a rich man, I am glad that the police have treated him in such manner.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: As that was only intended for a certain propose, I do not propose to go further into it. My objection was due to the belief that individual policemen were responsible for the mischief.

PRESIDENT: That is all for the State and under present conditions that is necessary.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Then, Sir, my second point is about the way in which people are unnecessarily detained in police stations during the course of investigation. You won't see that in British India.

PRESIDENT: That is not correct. It may be so in the City of Madras because of the very large number of stations and tremendous establishment. If you go to Chingalpet, you can see a different story. Whatever be the practice, according to law, a policeman can detain a person only for a short time.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: In the Travancore Police, persons are kept under custody for 6 to 7 days and the entries made after 20 days of the arrest. I know such cases are *sub judice*. Therefore, Sir, special rules must be made and more stringent orders issued to officers to see to remedying illegal detentions. Cases of a person having been arrested and detained for more than 24 hours illegally, must be found out and culprits punished. After all, it is the so-called

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confession which is found defective later on. I only wish that though under the law confession is admissible as evidence only in certain appropriate cases, in general cases, it is not. All that I want to say is that accused persons should not be kept under police detention unless it is absolutely essential and that only for a minimum period.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala cum Agastisvaram*) : Sir, in the course of the discussion I heard you say about the policy of Government in the matter of handcuffing for offences under Food Control Order.

PRESIDENT : For grave offences,

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Yes, Sir. When I heard that, I was tempted to stand up and speak on another aspect of the question. Immediately after the declaration was made that the policy of handcuffing is to be adopted in the matter of grave offences under Food Control Order I thought to speak on it. However grave the offence may be under Food Control Order a policeman to be empowered to arrest and handcuff an accused person is a matter, I for one shudder to contemplate. It is open to great abuse and as such I would request you, Sir, to modify or revise such a policy. It is true individual cases of abuse by Police may be dealt with drastically. If the rule is not modified I can envisage before me the police force particularly from the lower rank running amuck among people for harassing them and extorting from them.

PRESIDENT : If they allow personal prejudices to feature or they evince a desire to make hay while the sun shines, over-running the equities of the situation, the punishment meted out to the police will be so drastic that such things will hardly recur.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : But, by the time persons come to complain of the treatment meted out to them by the police they will not be in a position then to impress on Government the nature and extent of the horrors undergone by them. Hence I thought to bring home to Government the necessity for revising the policy of the Government in regard to this matter of empowering police to resort to handcuffing accused persons.

Secondly, Sir, I do not propose to discuss the abstract principles of the method in which the C. I. D. or the general police should work. I might as well leave that in the hands of Government who are primarily responsible for looking into the efficiency and the integrity of the C. I. D. and Police. But I do want to draw the serious attention of Government as well as of the House in regard to a series of daring cases of theft of very valuable jewellery that occurred recently in the town of Nagercoil. These cases of house-breaking by night and of theft took place as it were in one straight line, from one corner of a ward right up to the southern end of it, in the course of 2 or 3 weeks' time. The four thefts that I propose to refer to shortly were from the houses of responsible Government officers and reputed persons of public standing. The first one was in the house of the District Judge and the properties involved were a gold watch and gold chain. They were

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stealthily removed from the bed chamber of the Judge one night. It was followed in the second night just in the opposite house where a responsible missionary of the Lutheran Mission was residing.

PRESIDENT: I know something about that case. There was a group of very efficient men who took to this particular kind of theft of watches and chains, jewellery, etc. There was also a series of jewellery thefts, entirely of the same kind in Madras, street after street, and house after house. When such activities were curbed in Madras, they went to Tinnevelly and repeated the same thefts here and there. Now, I am glad to inform the honourable members that that gang has been discovered and the matter is now under active investigation.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: In the missionary's house, fortunately, nothing of value was removed. After some 10 days or so, unfortunately, a relative of mine was deprived of his jewellery to the extent of Rs. 3,000 and odd. The gentleman concerned is a Lecturer in English in the Presidency College. Nothing else was heard of with regard to that. Then the fourth theft was in the house of a venerable Brahmin. Two brahmin ladies happened to stay in a house for recouping health. Theirs was a temporary stay. Diamond thodas of the mother and her daughter were removed. Nothing was heard about this. I ask why not the C. I. D. of our police try to trace these thefts and thus prove their ability to the public at large, where the crime branch of the Department were found to be unfit for the purpose.

PRESIDENT: This is only a luxury. The main work of the C. I. D. is not that.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Formerly this was done by C. I. D. when thefts or cases of murder could not be traced by ordinary police. I am not concerned with the C. I. D. man to see whether he is properly shadowing after persons. From my experience, I wonder whether the Inspector-General will hereafter at least devote his attention to order the C. I. D. to find out the source of thefts referred to, especially as they related to loss of very valuable jewellery.

Another aspect is this. The lower ranks of the Police should be strictly warned of their corrupt practices, when poor people approach them with their complaints of assault or cases of petty thefts. The poor sections of the public are really afraid of approaching police officers with complaints of minor thefts. They are afraid of coming into contact with the police for obvious reasons with their petty grievances. Even at the expense of money by such parties by way of inducing them to trace thefts, the stolen property could not be recovered. All that I urge now is that, an ordinarly humble individual, however low he may be in society, should have that consolation as one of the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja for approaching a police officer (without payment of money) for the purpose of redressing grievances in the matter of stolen properties belonging to him.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Sir, I too support the motion. In doing so, I want to lay particular stress on one or two aspects of the police administration which has not been referred to by my colleagues who spoke before me. There is one problem which ought to have been placed before Government as well as the Head of

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[Mr. Kannanthodath Janardanan Nair]

the Administration long, long before, in the name of justice, equity, law and humanity. It is about the treatment given to under-trial prisoners in lock-ups.

So, Sir, in the name of justice, in the name of equity, in the name of law and in the name of humanity this treatment given to under-trial prisoners should have been at least according to the laws of the State. Now with an experience of the past 11 months—of which the first three months I was treated as under-trial prisoner—I can more or less give a complete description of the treatment meted out to an under-trial prisoner in a police lock-up. If this be the sort of treatment meted out to me, an honourable member of this house, a "detenue under D. T. R.", honourable members can, more or less, understand what will be the treatment that will be meted out to persons lower in status than me who will be kept in police stations on some charge under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code or the Civil Procedure Code. The law demands that a man interned should be given a mat and a pillow. I can assure this House that for the first 3 months I was not given a mat or a pillow. Then again the law demands that an under-trial prisoner should be given a bath a day, should be allowed to wash his cloth at least once a week, should be provided with soap, oil and such other amenities. I can tell you, Sir, that the Inspector of Police there was reluctant to allow me to shave at all for the first three months. So also in respect of cropping my hair. I was not given oil or soap or was allowed to wash my cloth, the only one I had on me when I was arrested. It need not be added that the Inspector did not give me any cloth for change. That was my condition for the first three months. Even after that my conditions were not very different from that of an ordinary prisoner. By this you can more or less get a clear view into the inside of lock-ups which are never cleaned, though law insists it—where the under-trial prisoners are kept. Doctors do not come and pay visits at all. I am not raising these points as a complaint, for if I wanted, I could have done it earlier. More so because of the principles and spirit involved in my surrender to the police for internment and sacrifice. I make mention of these things as a matter of right which a prisoner is entitled to get according to the law of the State. This is a matter for which the Government should find a remedy at the earliest possible moment. What is given by law should on no account be held back under one pretext or other.

At the close of the 3rd month there was another curious pitiable aspect of the whole affair. The District Magistrate paid a visit to the Police Station. I mentioned all these things to him. He has made a record of those things in the visitors' diary. To my utter disappointment I heard the Inspector replying to the District Magistrate that all these things were done under the instruction of the Inspector-General of Police. Now imagine how a Police Inspector could take the law into his hands and operate it like this to under-trial prisoners. The mildest word I can find for this is "high handedness". I was a detenue all along and not an under-trialer. I am, I know, respectable to the

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world at large but due to difference of opinion with the Government had to go under police custody. That does not in any way wipe out my respectability. Even if it does so the conception of law is that a man should not be held up to condemnation till definite charges are proved against him. Detention which, as far as I know, is only to prevent the commission of an offence and the detenue in the lockup is there for some unproved charge. I am not finding fault for interning me. I know that under the existing order of things a man who tries to upset that order will be interned. But a man who is interned for a difference of opinion with the Government should have been treated better. Three or four days after the visit of the District Magistrate, the Inspector-General of Police came there. I am glad to tell the House that he behaved very politely and he was himself prepared to give me some concessions. On the one hand the concessions allowed by law are withdrawn under his instructions and on the other hand he himself is prepared to give all sorts of concessions, what a curious paradox. I could not understand the meaning of all these things. How could I reconcile those two attitudes presented in two phases by the I. G. of Police?

Another thing I want to make particular mention is with regard to the action taken under the Defence of Travancore Law. The particular rule under which the police could arrest a person without a warrant is rule 129. That rule lays down that as soon as a man is arrested the matter "should be forthwith reported to Government". I know, Sir, there are cases where arrests were reported after two days, three days, a week and some times two weeks after. How have the Government viewed this illegality? What action have they taken on it. In cases taken for profiteering and hoarding with regard to food supplies, for some time, the cases were allowed to have their own course and before they were charge-sheeted, if my information is correct, the police got orders that they should be withdrawn. I do not understand how the Inspector-General of Police can ask the police authorities to withdraw the cases before they were charge-sheeted before a court of law. When this irregularity was brought to the notice of Government the cases were ordered to be charged and withdrawn thereafter. No one could even contest the cases in the courts as apologies were got from the accuseds along with the charge-sheets. Most of the people who were charge-sheeted under the Defence of Travancore Rules for profiteering and things of that sort were acquitted simply because they tendered apology and were prepared to give back what they plundered. That has affected the work of Government on the matter of food supplies and control of prices very adversely. Because my friend, Mr. Sivathanu Pillai, has made mention of certain attrocities, I do not want to go into that question. Believing that the Government will go into these questions, stop all illegalities and high handedness of the Police, and find remedies as soon as possible, I support the motion.

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MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Sir, I wish to support the motion. My object in intervening in this debate is to draw the attention of this House and the Government to certain incidents which have happened in Shencotta quite recently. The House must be aware that in the matter of food supplies, the Government of Madras have imposed certain restrictions or rather prohibition, against exports into Travancore. In order to give effect to this order or policy of the Government, they have posted police forces all along the frontier. The police forces which are posted there do not confine their operations to British Indian territory only. They extend their activities now and then into Travancore territories as well.

PRESIDENT: Why is it that the honourable member has not brought it to the notice of the Government earlier?

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR: It has been mentioned to me that these policemen very often make incursions into the Shencotta taluk. They come in lorries, make house searches and raids on certain occasions and forcibly remove goods which according to them are contraband goods. I cannot understand how the British policy could come to Travancore territory and exercise their police powers within Travancore jurisdiction.

PRESIDENT: I may say at once that to the extent to which I have learned, if any alleged excesses by the British Police and their trespasses into Travancore territory or their man-handling our people were known, I have protested vigorously taking the line that this State will not tolerate the British Police to come into this territory for any such purpose. If such incidents are brought to the notice of the Government this Government will take the most vehement steps for the purpose of protecting the dignity of the State, and the rights of the State subjects have to be protected from unwarranted trespass by the police force of any other jurisdiction. If this is brought to my notice all that is possible for me to do will be done. I know of an instance in the Shencotta Railway Station. I myself witnessed at the Shencotta Railway Station the man-handling of certain persons by the British police for carrying rice. I then asked that a complaint should be filed at once. I do not know what took place after that in regard to that question. If the British subordinate police authorities are taking that line of action, it will provoke the Travancore police to take the same steps at Bhagavathipuram. I may mention that it will be very difficult for the State to prevent the police of this State entering British territories and doing exactly the same thing there. We are so anxious to avoid this kind of fruitless and wholly unnecessary conflict when, with a certain amount of give-and-take policy the two Police Departments can work amicably for the same purpose and achieve the same result. Both Governments want to prevent smuggling from British India to Travancore and from Travancore to British India. Both Governments are at one in that object and both are doing the best they can. No doubt, the British Government entertain the doubt that a good deal of the supply of rice to Travancore State is as a result of smuggling

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from their territory. Travancore Government in the same way entertain the doubt that there is a good deal of smuggling from Travancore territory to British India. Probably they have got the same substratum of truth or the same substratum of exaggeration. But it is hoped that leading men like the Deputy President and his friends will, whenever there is a slightest incident of what I call inter-provincial discrepancy, bring that to the notice of the Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR: It is because this is a very serious matter, Sir; because it constitutes not only an offence against the particular individuals but also an offence against the State as well that I intervened.

PRESIDENT: The State is indebted to the Deputy President for that.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR: The President rightly put me the question why this matter was not brought to the notice of Government earlier. I may assure the House, Sir, that it was brought to my notice only a few days ago and I have availed myself of the earliest opportunity to bring it to the notice of the Government. I trust that it will be taken notice of very seriously and that such occurences will be put a stop to once for all both in the interests of the people of Shencotta and of the Government.

PRESIDENT: The time for this demand expires by 4·55 P. M. I must give the Head of the Department at least 15 minutes. So honourable members who speak will kindly see that they take only 3 or 4 minutes.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: Sir, I have to point out only one aspect and that is with reference to the C. I. D. Of course the present system of C. I. D. work and their supervision may be continued. I have nothing to say about it. But the one thing I wish to point out is that for C. I. D. work only men of character, and position and men whose truth and honesty will not be challenged by anybody should be chosen even by giving decent salary. Such men should be made use of at least for detecting very important cases and cases involving violation of law and person and order. We had occasion to see the ordering by Government of certain prosecutions with reference to certain officers of the State. What I want to suggest is that such thing should not be ordered by Government unless the Government are satisfied of *prima facie* guilt of moral turpitude or the actual commission of some criminal offence.

PRESIDENT: It has nothing to do with the C. I. D. Police. The Director of Registration has brought to the notice of Government that within two months after the rice control work was started, there was an abnormal increase in the number of documents in certain Sub-Registry offices. As most of the documents belonged to persons who were doing rice control work an enquiry was held. But Mr. Kunju Panicker cannot bring it under the Police Grant.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: For example, in the matter of collection of paddy and such other things connected with food supply there were very many allegations against the authorities. What I want to bring to the notice of Government is, if they have got.....

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PRESIDENT: Order, order. It is no use saying that, because the prominent men mentioned to me by the honourable members of this House and elsewhere have given me statements which have been as vehemently contradictory. When there is a general distress there is also a general distrust. We have to proceed on certain amount of information. That information is sometimes correct and sometimes it is not. Now every man is expected to be a C. I. D. officer in regard to the food business.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: What is the standard of selection?

PRESIDENT: A man of character and education.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: The employment of at least a small force of C. I. Ds. of the best character referred to by me would be most valuable to the efficient administration of this State.

MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN: Sir, within the short time at my disposal I wish to place before the House a few points.

The treatment meted out to our under-trial prisoners is far from satisfactory. In fact I shuddered to listen to the sickening story narrated by my honourable friend Mr. Janardanan Nair. It is certainly no credit for the Government that an honourable member of this House should be so badly treated by the Police. There should have been more magnanimity on the part of the police in the treatment of an honourable member of this House. Yesterday, I met Mr. Bashir, a student of the University College, who described to me the treatment he got as an under-trial prisoner. Under the rules, as I understand, an under-trial prisoner is allowed to possess a grass mat: a pillow, two dhoties and two jamickals. But from the narration of Mr. Bashir what I came to understand is that these under-trial prisoners are given nothing but a dhoti. With regard to bathing and all that he gave a description which is exactly similar to what has been described by Mr. Janardanan Nair. I therefore wish to draw the kind attention of the Inspector-General of Police to the matter.

In British India the under-trial prisoners are kept in sub-jails. I would suggest that our under-trial prisoners may also be kept not in lock-ups but in sub-jails.

Next, I want to refer to the recruitment affair. I have no complaint for the runners, jumpers, and climbers, being recruited to the Police Force. My only point is that equal consideration should also be shown in regard to educational qualifications. I agree with the suggestion made by Mr. Narayana Kurup. Then with regard to the promotion of graduates, my humble advice is that we should always prefer a graduate to a non-graduate for the post of an Inspector of Police.

I have great objection to non-graduate Head Constables being promoted as Inspectors.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Is the honourable member aware that there are graduate Head Constables in the Department.

MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN: Yes there are graduates in service, and my point is that they must be promoted.

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The graduate clerks in the department also should be given preference to non-graduates in the matter of promotions. Let us have persons of character and culture as the custodians of the peace of the land.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, Mr. Janardanan Nair complained about the non-supply of mat, pillow and so on. I may inform the House that the Police have absolutely nothing to do with this supply. They have only to see that these men are kept in proper custody.

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know from the Honourable Member whether they are responsible for the under-trial prisoners?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Not with regard to supply of food and clothing. My point is that if these things were not supplied he could have represented the matter to Government and the Honourable Member was writing to the Government about his wants.

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDANAN NAIR: How many times this prisoner represented to Government!

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: That I cannot tell you.

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDANAN NAIR: Is it more than once?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Why did he not complain?

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDANAN NAIR: Why should I complain, Sir?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Did he complain? I asked this gentleman so in the lock-up. When I went over there, the Honourable Member made no mention at all. I do not see from where the necessity comes now. My point is that we are not responsible. I wish to submit to the House that no where in British India they are entitled to all these amenities.

MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN: May I know whether prisoners are allowed pillows under the rules.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. It is a well-known fact that the question of provision of mats, pillows and other things is not dealt with by the Police. The District Magistrate is the person who is to provide for that. The honourable member knows that at the time of conviction the prisoners are treated as "A" class or "B" class and they are given certain specific things according to the class. With regard to Bashir, I am not prepared to take things at face value. So far as Mr. Nair is concerned, it was never brought to the notice of Government that he was not given a mat or pillow.

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDHANAN NAIR: When we present a petition, the Inspector says that he is not allowed to take a petition.

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PRESIDENT: I see the point. To the extent to which the charges made by the honourable member are authentic, I regard it as a failure on the part of Government for which I have to take the fullest responsibility, and I take that responsibility, and I express my sorrow. But that sorrow is slightly mitigated by the circumstance that I was not aware of the failure to supply these things. The matter having been mentioned now, steps will be taken to see that there are no complaints in future.

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDANAN NAIR: Thank you, Sir.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, when I visited him the Honourable Gentleman did not mention to me about pillows. He mentioned to me only about bath which I allowed. If he had mentioned about the other thing, I would have allowed that.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member will proceed.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, to appoint constables on the population basis is a misnomer.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: I never said that they should be appointed on the population basis.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: He said that the population in Travancore is on the increase but the number of policemen is less. I should be happy if the number of policemen is also increased. But I cannot understand the reason for increasing them on the population basis. At one time it was thought so. But now that theory has been exploded. In Travancore the people are very peace-loving. Why should I treat them as criminals and give them more policemen on the population basis? They are more peace-loving and more law-abiding than anywhere else.

Then he referred to the question of petty offences. I do not want to take the time of the House, but it is necessary to give the figures. In 1116 the number of cases of house-breaking and theft was 628; in 1117 it was 627; and up to 10-12-1118 it is 422.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Is the member aware that a cycle was stolen from the yard of the Secretariat six months ago?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes, Sir.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the member is aware that it has not yet been detected although the number of the cycle and the name of the person were given?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes, Sir. The number can be easily erased. The thieves are more clever. There are some interstetts and inter-district thieves. Cycles are sometimes taken to Cochin or the adjoining British Districts. Similarly the cycles stolen in the adjoining territories are brought into this State. Now the head of the Police in Cochin and the adjoining British Districts and myself are putting our heads together to trace out all these things.

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PRESIDENT: There are some prominent men employing agencies for getting electric bulbs. In this way they are endeavouring to corner all electric bulbs. The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: As the Honourable Member, Mr. Sivathanu Pillai, said there were house-breakings in certain localities in Nagercoil successively. We have therefore begun to have night inspections. As a matter of fact this year our exercises towards prevention of crimes have been more successful.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Has any one of those four cases of theft of valuables been traced?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: No, Sir. In the matter of detection of house-breaking, it is not a matter of a day or a year. It takes a long time. But it will be detected. In Malabar and other places the house-breaking which took place years ago have been detected only recently. In some cases the property had passed 15 or 20 hands. We will have to wait for some time. I myself visited that place one night at a late hour. I tapped on the door and the gentleman came out. I understood from my own inspection that there was great contributory negligence.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know whether there is sufficient patrol in that locality?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: We have introduced a certain system of patrol all over the State. Now you can see the result. For the last so many weeks there have been no cases. In Nagercoil, the A. S. P. and the Inspector are going out every night. In Trivandrum each Inspector is taking turn every night. The result is that house-breaking has been stopped now.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know whether these thefts are discovered by him or the Department?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Of course, by the help of the Department.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the figures read out by the Honourable Member are complaints or actual detection?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Complaints which are registered in the State.

MR. KANNANTHODATHU JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Honourable Member be pleased to tell me what was the amount lost and what was the amount actually recovered during the course of the year?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: I am sorry, I cannot give them. If the Honourable Member will give me a couple of days' time, I shall write to him.

Now, the patrols have been doubled. In the Trivandrum City, the Inspectors are going on night patrol check alternatively. The A. S. Ps. and Inspectors are doing the useful work of night patrols in other places.

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SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Are there any families with atavistic tendencies? If so, how many are there? I am just asking if there is anybody.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: If the Honourable Gentleman wants to draw me out as to the particular methods we are using, I am sorry I cannot answer him. The C. I. D. methods have come in for much comment here. I know that our C. I. D. is not at all perfect. I have seen the C. I. D. at work in all the provinces. All that I can say is that we have a system of watch. I do not want to frighten the House. It may be that a man who appears before you.....

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has only one minute more. He must compress his remarks.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: There may be various methods of watch. There may be C. I. D. over C. I. D. I am too old a dog to believe that any report that comes to me is gospel truth. I know that and I often get kicks from the Dewan. When I think I have got one rupee worth of truth and appear before him, he values it only at As. 8. Therefore I get kicks. .....

PRESIDENT: The time allotted for the demand has expired. So I put the motion.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, as the reply of the official member is not satisfactory, in the hope that he will improve on the lines suggested by us. I do not press the motion.

The motion, by leave was withdrawn.

The question that a sum of Rs. 11,84,581 be granted under Demand XVI—Police—was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—PORTS.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 21,694 under Demand XVII—Ports.

The question that a sum of Rs. 21,694 be granted under Demand XVII—Ports was put and carried.

The motion was passed and the grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—EDUCATION—GOVERNMENT GRANT TO THE TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 9,27,000 under Demand XVIII—Education—Government Grant to the Travancore University.

Motion No. 208.

MR. WARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Sir, I move the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,15,000 for grant to the Travancore University by Rs. 10".

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